



**United States Attorney's Office
District of Columbia**

**Channing D. Phillips
Acting United States Attorney**

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, June 1, 2009

USAO Public Affairs

(202) 514-6933

www.usdoj.gov/usao/dc

VA Man pleads guilty to Enticing a Child

WASHINGTON - A 28-year-old McLean, Virginia man, Paul A. Seda, who worked as a consultant for Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc., pled guilty today before the Honorable Ann Keary, in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia to enticing a child in 2008, Acting U.S. Attorney Channing D. Phillips and MPD Chief Cathy L. Lanier announced. At sentencing, which is scheduled for July 30, 2009, Seda faces a maximum sentence of five years imprisonment and a fine of \$50,000. Under the sentencing guidelines, he faces a likely sentencing range of one to 12 months in prison.

According to the government's evidence, on January 28, 2008, an individual later identified as the defendant, Paul A. Seda, initiated contact with Metropolitan Police Department Detective Morani Hines who was in an internet chat room acting in an undercover capacity as part of a multi-jurisdictional Task Force known as the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. Detective Hines identified himself as a 13-year-old girl. The defendant asked for a picture and Detective Hines forwarded to the defendant a photograph of a young girl approximately 13 years of age. The defendant and Detective Hines engaged in further conversation in which the defendant suggested they engage in various sexual acts. The defendant asked to meet and they arranged to meet the following day.

On January 29, 2008, at the agreed upon time, the defendant arrived at a designated meeting location in Northeast Washington, D.C., where he was subsequently arrested. Metropolitan Police Department officers and Fairfax County officers seized computers and a data storage device from the defendant's home in McLean, Virginia, which contained

evidence connecting the defendant to this crime.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood and the District of Columbia MPD/FBI Child Exploitation Task Force. In February 2006, the Attorney General created Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the U.S. Attorney's Offices, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

In announcing the guilty plea, Acting U.S. Attorney Phillips and MPD Chief Lanier commended the outstanding investigative work of Metropolitan Police Department Detectives Morani Hines, Timothy Palchak, Miguel Miranda, and Jonathan Andrews. They also commended Criminal Investigators John Marsh and Durand Odom, who provided forensic analysis; Eugena Johnson, who provided paralegal support, Tiffany Jones, who provided administrative support and Ron Royal, who provided litigation support. Finally, Mr. Phillips commended Assistant U.S. Attorney Tracey S. Lankler, who is prosecuting this case.

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